


# COUNTY OF YORK

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** April 20, 2006 (BOS Mtg. 5/2/06)

**TO:** York County Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** James O. McReynolds, County Administrator 

**SUBJECT:** Rental Subsidy Programs/Annual Funding Renewal

### **Background**

Nationally, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) provides funding for subsidy programs that assist low-income citizens in renting privately owned housing. In Virginia, these HUD funds are managed on a statewide basis by the Virginia Housing Development Authority (VHDA).

York County has operated rental subsidy programs since 1979. These services represent an important and critically needed resource for York's lower income residents. The programs are implemented by the Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization Division of the County's Community Services Department. VHDA issues rent payments directly to owners following submissions of leases and contracts by the Housing Division. Consequently, the County's budget reflects only the administrative reimbursements that York receives to defray the cost of implementing the programs. Total rent, utilities, and administrative payments for FY2007 are in excess of \$1,500,000 annually.

There is no new competition for funds annually. The programs are renewed annually through the execution of an agreement between the County and VHDA. York has budget authority that will assist over 300 families through the Housing Choice Voucher Program.

### **Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program**

These funds subsidize low-income families in renting privately owned dwellings dispersed throughout the County.

- The program administration involves processing of tenant eligibility, recruiting suitable dwellings, negotiation of rents, dwelling inspections and identification of repairs, preparation of leases, contracts, requests for subsidy checks, and a variety of landlord/tenant counseling services.

There is currently a waiting list in excess of 500 families for rental subsidy programs.

**Recommendation**

It is my recommendation that the Board adopt proposed Resolution R06-58, which authorizes the County Administrator to take all actions necessary to accept federal funds and continue this important service to York's lower income residents.

Smith/4111

Attachment:

- Proposed Resolution R06-58